REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 9, and 17 to more clearly point out the present invention's ability to synchronize subtitles in a variety of languages with an associated streaming media file, without altering the streaming media file, such that a mixed-media presentation that includes the streaming media file may be presented with dynamically synchronized subtitles in any one of the variety of languages in response to selection of a preferred language. Furthermore, new dependent Claims 42 and 43, which depend, respectively, from Claims 1 and 9, point out additional distinguishing features associated with the ability to dynamically synchronize transcript files containing text, such as subtitles, in a variety of languages.

The amendments and new claims are supported by the original specification and drawings. For example, see Page 20, line 19 through Page 21, line 5 of the specification, and FIGURE 3, as well as other portions of the specification and drawings.

Additionally, independent Claims 21, 32, and 33 have been amended to more clearly recite presentation of a mixed-media file presentation comprising at least one static media file that is dynamically synchronized with streaming media in a desired streaming media format from amongst a plurality of available streaming media formats while the presentation is being displayed. In addition, new Claims 44-46, which depend respectively from Claims 21, 31, and 32, point out additional distinguishing features associated with the ability to dynamically synchronize streaming media files in a variety of streaming media formats.

These amendments and new claims are supported by the original specification and drawings. For example, Page 6, line 23 through Page 7, line 3 of the specification lists a sampling of representative streaming media formats into which a given streaming media file may be converted and then dynamically synchronized with various static media files. As a further example, FIGURE 10 describes the conversion of the streaming media file into different formats (step 1008) and the synchronization in one step of static files to the steaming media (step 1014).

Obviousness Rejections of Claims 1-18, 20-21, 23, 31-36 and 39-41

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-18, 20-21, 23, 31-36, and 39-41 under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gutfreund (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,835) in view of Purnaveja, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,006,241, issued on December 21, 1999 (hereinafter Purnaveja).

As noted above, independent Claims 1, 9, and 17 have been amended to recite the ability to synchronize transcript files containing text in a variety of languages, such as subtitles, with an associated streaming media file, without altering the streaming media file, such that a mixed-media presentation that includes the streaming media file may be presented with dynamically synchronized subtitles in any one of the variety of languages in response to selection of a preferred language.

Neither Gutfreund nor Purnaveja teach or suggest the ability or desirability of creating transcript files of text in a variety of languages that can be dynamically synchronized with a multi-media presentation, such as for the dynamic synchronization of subtitles in a selected one of a variety of languages for presentation with a video presentation. The connection between synchronization after streaming (during playback) and the advantages for such a system when presenting multiple languages options can be found only in the present application.

Thus, the currently amended Claims 1, 9, and 17, and dependent Claims 2-8, 10-16, 18, and 20, as well as new dependent Claims 42-43, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, as noted above, Applicants have amended independent Claims 21, 31, and 32 to recite presentation of a mixed-media file presentation comprising at least one static media file that is dynamically synchronized with streaming media in a desired streaming media format from amongst a plurality of available streaming media formats while the presentation is being displayed.

Neither Gutfreund nor Purnaveja teach or suggest the ability to dynamically synchronize static media files with streaming output files that have been formatted in a variety of streaming media formats, which "helps ensure that the final mixed-media file presentation system will be supported by a wide variety of user platforms." (See Page 27, lines 15-17). The connection between synchronization after streaming (during playback) and the advantages for such a system when presenting multiple format options can be found only in the present application.

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Thus, the currently amended Claims 21, 31, and 32, and dependent Claims 23, 33-36, and 39-41, as well as new dependent Claims 44-46, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Obviousness Rejection of Claims 37-38

The Examiner rejected Claims 37 and 38 under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Gutfreund in view of Purnaveja and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, published 1997. Claims 37 and 38 depend from Claim 32, which, as currently amended, is believed to be patentable over Gutfreund, Purnaveja, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, and, as stated above, is accordingly believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant believes that Claims 37 and 38, which describe additional distinguishing features, are now also in condition to be allowed, notwithstanding the Microsoft disclosure of use of a markup language to format electronic documents.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application, as amended, is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any issues remain or require further clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's agent at the number indicated below in order to resolve such issues promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: _Feb 16, 2006_   By: _Nira Brand_
Nira Brand
Registration No. 52, 648
Agent of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 721-7606

2362959 / 020906